

From: Angela McQuillen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 5:42pm

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have always been proud to be an American, not just because this is the place of my birth, but because I have always known that this nation was unlike any other in the world. We are blessed to be citizens of a country where we have the privilege to live life the way we choose. This is the legacy that was left to us by our forefathers, and this is what we should pass on to our children. I believe the antitrust suit against Microsoft, and other cases like it, compromises the very foundation upon which this nation was built. If litigation like this is continued, this nation will become a shell of its former self, and the glory that is America will be nothing but a memory.

This suit was nothing more than an attempt by the Clinton administration to socialize American business. Our forefathers did not build a nation on the ideals of Socialism. This nation did not become the sole world superpower in a mere 200 years of existence because we allowed socialism to thrive in America; rather we are a nation built upon and made strong by our capitalist roots and our belief in free enterprise. It is the dream of every American to exceed the success of their father and grandfather, to go from rags to riches with nothing more than hard work, perseverance, and an unshakeable belief in America. This suit flies in the face of this dream.

Microsoft is the very embodiment of the American dream. This company started in a garage and twenty years later it is one of America's greatest corporate assets. This litigation sends the message to all future American entrepreneurs that it is okay to become successful, but only to a point, because too much success is forbidden. I am in favor of the settlement that was reached in this case in early November, not because it is a fair settlement, but because it will finally bring an end to this protracted litigation.

The issue in this case is no longer whether Microsoft committed antitrust violations. I personally believe that it did. If that were the issue, they would have been reprimanded and sent on their way a better, more responsible business leader. The issue of this case is whether or not we, as Americans, have the right to engage in free trade, and whether or not capitalism has a place in the twenty-first century. I say that without this right the future of America is bleak. This is probably one of the most important decisions that has ever faced this nation, and it rests on your shoulders, so you had better choose wisely. Thank you for your time and consideration of this issue. I trust you will make the right choice.

Sincerely,

Angie McQuillen

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